

## 550,000 MEN IN U. S. SHIPBUILDING ARMY

**Workers in American Yards  
Increased From 45,000 in  
Less Than a Year.**

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Less than a

there are more than 300,000 skilled mechanics and laborers engaged in building ships, and 250,000 more employed in making the engines, boilers,

This tremendous expansion by which the United States hopes to put into service a new merchant marine is not to be accomplished by the United States alone. The nation in the world has been accomplished in methodical fashion, without any "fuss and feathers," but achieving a result that is the most brilliant of the war. It has been brought about by the Shipping Board through recognition of the fact that the men who are to become skilled workmen only through competent instruction. One of the first tasks of the Shipping Board, therefore, was to establish a system of instruction and training, which has supervised the establishment of training centre and the development of instructors among the men who are to be trained.

Training of the various kinds of shipbuilders in the yards is accomplished by putting the men to work on production jobs, and the supervision of a yard instructor. This yard instructor has full charge of gangs while they are learning. The efficiency of a green gang can

Yard instructors are skilled mechanics trained in the teaching method. This training is given in a training centre, where the mechanic gets an idea of instructional management, and how to use the instructions effectively.

The first training centre was estab-

lized at Newport News. To it were sent skilled mechanics selected from the yards. They got a six weeks course of training, eight hours a day. During the last part of this course they were obliged to spend forty hours in the actual handling of gangs of green men. Yard instructors are drawn from a variety of trades, such as riveters, ship fitters, ship carpenters and caikers.

located at Newport News. It is there sent skippers, who are given a six-week course of training, eight hours a day. During the last part of this course they were obliged to spend several hours in actual work. The range of men men have yard instructors are drawn from a variety of trades, such as riveters, ship fitters, ship carpenters and caulkers.

Men who have sent men for training as yard instructors, of whom 216 have completed their training. Seventy-four are now in training.

Men who have sent men for training are established in Newport News there are others at Hog Island, Chester, Pa., and at the submarine yard, Newark, and two at the electric welding at Schenectady; and at New York city.

So far thirteen yards have put in training arrangements. One yard instructor can train about 150 men each year. The period of training for a green man varies from two to eight weeks. One instructor can train a green man of 300 instructors to turn out weekly 300 skilled mechanics within the year.

In addition to the training of green men, the yards have a large number of men who are already skilled in allied trades, but have never worked in shipyards, and making them into shipbuilders.

By training foremen and managers

The Shipping Board has been able to develop in a year the building of wooden ships, which had been a long lost art, and workmen in many yards have increased in efficiency more than 25 per cent.

"Where we have efficient management, we have efficient workers," Chairman Hurley declared today. "You can't expect to have efficient workmen in an inefficiently managed shipyard, nor can you expect good results."

"Our shipyard workers generally are as fine a body of men as is engaged in any industry in this country. They are a hardy, self-reliant, and generally efficient group, but in many yards they are not so efficient as we would like to have them. They are learning daily and are increasing their output. When the history of our shipbuilding programme is written, the American workmen, the men who really built the ships, will be the men deserving of any credit that may be due."

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